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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2006-2009 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

**Addendum**

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# 1. Center for Alcohol and Drug Research and Education

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

The Center for Alcohol and Drug Research and Education was founded in August 1994 as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. The Center has compiled research and provided policy guidance, expert services and reference materials concerning treatment programmes, law enforcement, education, primary drug prevention services and public policy analysis to physicians, treatment and prevention professionals, appointed and elected officials, clergy and public citizens in 40 states and 55 other nations. The Center maintains consultations and cooperative relationships with international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Health Organization (WHO), national and state governments, national organizations and a wide network of professionals in medicine, education, the law and other professions in the United States of America, Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The complex phenomenon of drug use, drug abuse and drug addiction requires knowledge of prevention, education, treatment and law enforcement, together with an understanding of basic science, behavioural science, policy development, service coordination and delivery and management information systems. The Center's mission is to provide technical assistance, guidance, information and expert service to individuals, organizations, governmental agencies and a variety of local, national and international non-profit organizations in the private sector to improve the quality of their response to this grave threat to society.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Center is organized exclusively for educational and charitable purposes, including the following specific purposes, which are drawn directly from its organizational charter:

- To provide public information regarding the efficacy of social and statutory policies based on personal abstinence from psychotropic drugs, conducting and sponsoring research and educating the public about the negative medical, scientific and sociological effects of illegal drug use and its relationship to collateral social policies
- To provide public information regarding the efficacy of medical treatment for alcoholism and drug addiction in alleviating personal suffering, strengthening family life and providing beneficial effects to social policies and programmes regarding law enforcement, criminal justice, public health and social welfare
- To study all federal, state and local drug laws and regulations, and monitor proposed changes therein
- To publish pertinent information concerning developments in the law relating to the existence, enforcement and judicial interpretation of drug laws and collateral social regulations

- To compile and report the results of all pertinent research concerning the medical, scientific, legal and sociological effects of the non-medical use of scheduled substances under the Controlled Substances Act of 1988 and all other illegal drugs, natural or synthetic, currently existing or developed hereafter
- To educate the public, individually and in the aggregate and elected, appointed or classified Federal and state officials as to the efficacy of the maintenance of current national, state and local policies regarding the legal status of psychotropic drugs.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Fifty-first session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Vienna, 10-14 March 2008;

High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, New York, 10-11 June 2008.

## 2. China Great Wall Society

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Founded in June 1987 under the leadership of the State Cultural Relic Bureau, China Great Wall Society is a top-level non-governmental organization (NGO) specialized in studying, publicizing, protecting and exploring the Great Wall. The Society is now led by its Chairman Xu Jialu, Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress, and Vice-Chairman Dong Yaohui.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The goal of the Society is to make the Great Wall known to the world, and to preserve the ancient Wall for later generations. The Society is devoted to the study and publicizing of the Great Wall, with a view to promoting its exploration and protection. Its task is to foster traditional Chinese cultures, carry forward the spirit of the Great Wall, bring into full play its function as a bridge between government and society, and mobilize all social forces available to protect the Great Wall.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

**2007**

(a) On Christmas Eve, diplomats met at the Badaling Great Wall, praying for the Olympics;

(b) At the mid-autumn festivals, diplomats met at the Mutianyu Great Wall to enjoy the Great Wall of the moon;

(c) Large-scale cultural activity, "Extending the Great Wall for another 10,000 li";

(d) The second folk song arts festival, held in Yulin, northern Shaanxi;

(e) A series of activities relating to the Great Wall campaign entitled "The new seven wonders of the world";

(f) The ancient battlefield culture sightseeing tour, held at the Badaling remnant, Great Wall.

**2008**

(a) Planned the closing ceremony of the "Sustainable and Green Olympics" for the United Nations on Badaling Great Wall;

(b) Planned the visit of the President of Latvia to the Great Wall;

(c) Diplomats from 44 countries joined "The night of Chinese language", on the Juyongguan Great Wall;

(d) "Cast the great green wall, meet the green Olympics" involved Chinese volunteers planting trees;

(e) Planned and implemented the "Sustainable development and green Olympics" activities on the Badaling Great Wall;

(f) The Great Wall cultural exhibition for the sixtieth anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Bulgaria;

(g) Awarded a gold medal for excellence in public relations;

(h) The Great Wall Protection Public Welfare Project featuring works of a famous Chinese painter and calligrapher.

**2009**

(a) Great Wall Inscriptions Monument Forest of Peace;

(b) Diplomats joined the Great Wall international culture festival, held in Shanhaiguan.

**2010**

(a) Chateau Margaux 2010 large-scale public welfare project for protecting the Great Wall;

(b) Diplomats visited the series of activities relating to the Great Wall in Zhangbei County;

(c) Supported Zhangbei County in establishing the "friendly cities" relationship with Golden City, United States;

(d) Organized international hiking races and supported cooperation between Laoniu River Bend, Great Wall, and Saemangeum seawall, Gunsan, Republic of Korea;

(e) Organized the visit of the Vice-President of Bulgaria to Badaling Great Wall;

(f) Held the first Laoniu River Bend-Yellow River international ice hiking races.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

28-29 April 2008: presentation on "Sustainable development and green Olympics", at the third Asia-Pacific Conference of the United Nations-NGO- informal regional network (UN-NGO-IRENE); 13-15 October 2008: the seventh Asia-Europe People's Forum, on the theme "For social and ecological justice", dedicated to increasing understanding and solidarity between the peoples of Asia and Europe and to promoting harmony, peace and the development of the two regions.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Programme on the Great Wall, organized with the International Centre on Space Technologies for the Natural and Cultural Heritage, under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Society will continue to strengthen cooperation and exchange with the world cultural natural heritage sites and other sites, and signed a memorandum of understanding with them, to continuously advance the work of sustainable development.

## 3. China Green Foundation

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

China Green Foundation is a nationwide public offering foundation, which was approved by the State Council and registered by the Ministry of Civil Affairs on 27 September 1985. It is supervised by the State Forestry Administration. The sixth Council of the Foundation was held on 3 September 2010. Jia Qinglin, the member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, is the Honorary Chairman. Wang Zhibao, the former minister of the State Forestry Administration, is the Chairman.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The mission of the Foundation is to promote the greening of the motherland, maintain the ecological balance, and advance the harmonious development of humankind and nature; to raise, manage and use public funds for green purposes; to extensively mobilize social forces to take part in ecological protections from forestry and construction; and to strengthen international exchange and cooperation on green issues.

**Any change that had a significant impact on the organization's vision**

On 3 September 2010, the Foundation held a general assembly of the sixth Council in the Great Hall of the People, in Beijing. The Honorary Chairman, Jia Qinglin, attended the meeting and made an important speech. Wang Zhibao continued to serve as the sixth president of the Council of the Foundation;

Zhuo Rongsheng served as the Secretary-General of the Council; and Chen Peng served as the Deputy Secretary-General of the sixth Council.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In accordance with its mission, the Foundation has raised, managed, and used the funds in the past four years, and has achieved considerable progress. From 2008 to 2011, it raised a total of 527 million yuan and spent 460 million yuan on 97 public greening projects covering an area of 1.2 million mu. All these projects have met the standards for inspection and acceptance and satisfied the donors, beneficiaries and managers, and they have made a positive contribution to addressing climate change, curbing land desertification, reducing poverty and maintaining the global ecological balance.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

(a) United Nations Climate Change Conference, Durban, South Africa, 28 November-10 December 2011;

(b) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 13-22 June 2012.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

With a view to expanding international cooperation, the Foundation actively explores new channels while enhancing existing resources. In addition to the exiting ties with the Nature Conservancy and the Obuchi Fund, the Foundation has forged strategic partnerships with such international agencies as the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the Climate Group and Oxfam Hong Kong, and has jointly launched multiple public welfare projects associated with afforestation, the protection of natural forests, the alleviation of the ecological dimensions of poverty, and the control of land desertification.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Foundation carried out a number of afforestation projects aimed at combating climate change, land desertification control and wetlands, and public projects aimed at eliminating the ecological dimensions of poverty.

**Additional information**

Despite the achievements of the past four years, it is clearly recognized that there is still a long way to go for the work of ecological greening. Fundraising efforts for greening initiatives are not sufficient and opportunities for international cooperation are limited. To that end, the newly elected Council of the Foundation put forward new ideas centring on the ecological greening task, by stepping up publicity, raising funds from a wide range of sources, building innovative brands and accelerating development, so as to expand the scale of fundraising and enhance public participation.

## 4. December 18 vzw

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

December 18 is a Belgium-based international NGO that was created in 1999 in order to contribute to the global promotion and protection of the rights of migrant workers.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The goal of the organization is to ensure that the human rights of all migrants are known, recognized and protected effectively, and that an environment is created for migrants to be full participants in any society. December 18 promotes an approach to migration policies that is based on existing international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Because its focus is on the rights of migrant workers, the organization primarily deals with the ratification and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Migrant Workers Convention). It published research papers on the reasons why European Union member States have not ratified the Convention; it took advocacy efforts across the European Union; it is a member of the executive committee of the International Platform on the Migrant Workers Convention and, throughout the reporting period, it remained an active member of the Steering Committee of the Global Campaign for the Ratification of the Convention. It continues to maintain a multilingual resource website on migrants' rights (including information on the work of the United Nations) and it launched the *Radio 1812* initiative, a global radio marathon on the occasion of International Migrants Day.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended all of the sessions of the Committee on Migrant Workers held from 2007 to 2010, in Geneva. At an expert dialogue organized by the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Europe office, in Brussels in 2010, a representative participated as a speaker on the panel.

Representatives attended the meeting of the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, Kyung-wha Kang, with European-level NGOs, held in Brussels in 2010.

A representative attended the twenty-second meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty monitoring bodies, held in Brussels in 2010.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization:

(a) Received financial support from UNESCO for the *Radio 1812* project (2007 and 2008);

(b) Two contributions to the UNESCO publication *Migration and Human Rights: The United Nations Convention on Migrant Workers' Rights* (2009);

(c) Collaboration with the OHCHR Europe office on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Migrant Workers Convention (2010).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Because the focus of the organization is on the protection of the rights of migrant workers, the Millennium Development Goals do not feature directly in its work. There are, of course, many linkages between development and migration. That is why the organization is actively following the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the so-called Civil Society Days, primarily through covering the sessions on the *Radio 1812* programme.

**Additional information**

The organization strongly believes in the promotion of International Migrants Day and in giving migrant workers a voice in the public debate. For that reason, it launched the *Radio 1812* initiative in 2006. Since then, the annual radio marathon has involved over 100 radio stations from across the world. In that context, the organization has given attention to the work of the United Nations in the protection of migrants rights, namely through interviews with the chairs of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, Mr. El Jamri and Mr. Kariyawasam, and by interviewing the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, François Crépeau.

## 5. Globe International

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

National legislation and scrutiny, and therefore the role of legislators, are the critical elements of any successful strategy to set the world on a path to sustainable development. Globe works with legislators across the world to implement this strategy.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Globe's mission is to create a critical mass of legislators that can agree and advance common legislative responses to the major challenges to global sustainable development.

**Any change that had a significant impact on the organization's vision**

Since the last report, Globe has formed national chapters in the parliaments of most of the Group of Twenty (G20) countries, with supporting secretariats in Brazil, China and Mexico and soon to be in India and Indonesia. This has made a considerable difference in the effectiveness of the organization and improved its ability to drive the climate change and sustainability agenda at the national level.

Since 2007, Globe has brought together some 100 legislators from all major political parties within the parliaments of the Group of Eight, Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa and from the European Parliament, to develop and advance progressive and coordinated climate change legislation. In 2008, Globe began working with legislators on the valuation of natural capital, forests, biodiversity and the marine environment, and started to engage with legislators from a number of developing countries.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Globe has convened legislators from both G20 and developing countries on climate change, forestry, marine ecosystems, biodiversity and natural capital. Legislators have been addressed by international scientific and economic experts and have developed policy positions in support of United Nations objectives, including the Bali Action Plan (and the Cancun agreements) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted at the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, which have been taken forward domestically.

On climate change, Globe members have been instrumental in advancing national legislation in Brazil, China, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the European Union. The annual Globe Climate Legislation Study has demonstrated that the vast majority of countries in the G20 are moving forward with climate-related laws and the report has been used by ministers to counter arguments that their countries are "moving alone".

The work of the International Commission on Land Use Change and Ecosystems from 2008 to 2010 was highly relevant to the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). In particular, the International Commission developed a strong partnership with the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity study and helped to draw political attention to its reports. The Commission also established a strong link with the Convention on Biological Diversity.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Globe legislators have actively contributed to United Nations meetings, including the annual Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. While Globe has convened legislators from the G20 countries to discuss climate change legislation in advance of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties, many of these forums have been attended by the Executive Secretary of the Framework Convention secretariat, including in Washington, D.C., Berlin and Tokyo. As part of the Commission, Globe International and Globe Japan partnered with the Convention on Biological Diversity secretariat to host the Globe Nagoya Legislators Forum, held in Nagoya, Japan. This event brought together 140 legislators from over 35 countries to explore how legislators can support the delivery of the goals of the Convention.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The role of UNEP as the Global Environment Facility (GEF) agency for the implementation of the International Commission programme has greatly strengthened the cooperation between Globe and key United Nations bodies. UNEP played an active role in designing and overseeing the delivery of this initiative,

while also providing technical advice and introductions to key experts and individuals across the United Nations. Globe also developed a strong partnership with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention, as described.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization's work supports the Millennium Development Goals, and in particular Goal 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability, by supporting national legislators to be more active in addressing the major global environmental challenges through their parliamentary responsibilities.

**Additional information**

An independent evaluation coordinated by the UNEP Evaluation Office of GEF-funded International Commission recognized that "Globe is leading the way in demonstrating the important role legislators can play in promoting the sustainable use of natural resources and (the) only parliamentary body pushing the agenda on sustainable land use. Such a process is key to overcoming political barriers on these issues, and thereby facilitating the development of effective legislation".

## 6. International Harm Reduction Association

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The International Harm Reduction Association (now known as Harm Reduction International) is a leading NGO working to promote and expand support for harm reduction worldwide. It works to reduce the negative health, social and human rights impacts of drug use and drug policy — such as the increased vulnerability to HIV and hepatitis infection among people who inject drugs — by promoting evidence-based public health policies and practices and human rights-based approaches to drug policy.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Association's vision is a world in which individuals and communities benefit from drug laws, policies and practices that promote health, dignity and human rights.

The Association works to reduce drug-related harm by promoting evidence-based public health policy and practices and human rights-based approaches to drug policy through an integrated programme of research, analysis, advocacy and collaboration with civil society partners.

**Any change that had a significant impact on the organization's vision**

As of 2011, the International Harm Reduction Association operates under the name Harm Reduction International. Its legal name has not changed.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Association's work is grounded in human rights and public health and focused on HIV prevention, treatment and care, and criminal justice reform in the context of illicit drug use.

The Association is an influential global source of research, policy/legal analysis and advocacy on drug use, health and human rights issues. In the course of our work, it collaborates closely with multiple parts of the United Nations system — political and programmatic.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

During the period from 2007 to 2010, IHRA attended the following United Nations meetings as an NGO:

**2007**. Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

**2008**. Commission on Narcotic Drugs; Human Rights Council (side event on human rights and drug policies, with the Special Rapporteur on torture, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and WHO); High level Meeting of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS; Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Sweden); annual meeting of Special Procedures (Geneva).

**2009**. Commission on Narcotic Drugs; Human Rights Council (interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on torture); Economic and Social Council (side event on drug policies, Geneva); Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Poland).

**2010**. Commission on Narcotic Drugs; Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (side event on the death penalty); Committee on the Rights of the Child (Ukraine); Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Afghanistan, Colombia, Kazakhstan Mauritius and the Russian Federation).

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

During the reporting period, the Association has worked with various United Nations system agencies on issues relating to drugs, HIV and human rights, including requests from those agencies to attend meetings and to advise staff. They include the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The Association has regularly contributed to the work of various Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council, including: the Special Rapporteur on the right to health (mission to Poland, 2009; General Assembly, thematic report, 2010); the Special Rapporteur on torture (mission to Kazakhstan, 2009; Human Rights Council, thematic report, 2009).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The association is a leading NGO working on HIV prevention relating to injecting drug use, thereby contributing to Goal 6. On that issue, the Association works closely with the secretariat of UNAIDS. It also runs the annual International Harm

Reduction Conference. United Nations offices, programmes and funds, in particular WHO and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UNAIDS, have sponsored the event. United Nations staff members are regularly invited to give keynote addresses, to host stalls and distribute materials. Some United Nations entities have also supported the conference with financial donations.

## 7. International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse is an international NGO that covers all nations of the world.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Network is an international membership organization of scholars, academics, governmental officials and practitioners in the field of elder abuse and neglect. Its mission is to promote an understanding of elder abuse, neglect and mistreatment from a global perspective in order to prevent and address elder mistreatment and promote the safety, dignity and well-being of older adults around the world. It seeks to accomplish that mission through its global network of members representing the six regions of the world, meetings at international conferences, shared research and policy achievements, and the expansion of efforts worldwide to promote awareness of elder mistreatment and how to prevent it. During the reporting period, the Network has conducted training the trainers programmes in Argentina, Cuba, Mexico and Nepal. The Secretary General of the Network has provided training on elder abuse in Nepal, in cooperation with NGOs and Government agencies. It has promoted a World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on 15 June and provided technical support and visibility for related events around the world for the past six years through its website (www.inpea.net).

**Any change that had a significant impact on the organization's vision**

There have been no significant changes in the by-laws of affiliations of the Network that affect its relationship with the United Nations.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Network has teams actively participating in the work of the United Nations through several different NGO committees, including the New York, Geneva and Vienna NGO committees on ageing. It led the initiative to promote a world Elder Abuse Awareness Day on 15 June. It disseminates information at meetings during sessions of the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women and hearings on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in 2008, it collaborated with the Department of Public Information on a briefing on social isolation. Network representatives co-chaired the International Day of Older Persons in 2008 and 2010 at United Nations Headquarters. Network representatives organized annual special informational programmes on elder abuse and neglect with both the NGO Committee on Ageing and the NGO Committee on the Status of Women at Headquarters, with

internationally recognized experts in the area of elder abuse and neglect as speakers. Network members have participated in workshops at Department of Public Information/NGO conferences on older adults and climate change.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

**2007**. Representatives participated in the NGO Committee on Ageing International Day of Older Persons, New York; and organized a World Elder Abuse Awareness Day at United Nations Headquarters.

**2008**. Representatives worked with the Department of Public Information on the first briefing on social isolation of older persons. Members chaired the International Day of Older Persons, on the theme "Towards a convention for the rights of older persons".

**2009**. Members participated in a Department of Public Information/NGO conference in Mexico City, and made a presentation on the impact of climate change on older people.

**2010**. Members chaired the International Day of Older Persons, with an emphasis on the Millennium Development Goals and older persons. Members participated in the session of the Commission for Social Development. They also advocated and held parallel events at the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva, with OHCHR.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization works closely with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Public Information. It was represented on the Commission for Social Development and the NGO Working Group to Promote a Convention for the Human Rights of Older Persons. Network members were active with the Geneva and New York NGO committees on the status of women and the Subcommittee on Older Women, in New York, and the Civil Society Forum planning committee of the NGO Committee for Social Development. Members participated in meetings of the United Nations by providing oral and written statements. Members visited missions and advocated for the rights of older persons in various countries around the world.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Representatives chaired the 2010 International Day of Older Persons at United Nations Headquarters, on the theme "The Millennium Development Goals and Older Persons". Members distributed information on the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, and on the Millennium Development Goals.

## 8. Maryam Ghasemi Educational Charity Institute

**Special, 2007**

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

(a) The eradication of poverty, with an emphasis on improving educational modes and spheres through looking for sustainable solutions in ameliorating educational status;

(b) The promotion of social development through studying cultural and social problems and presenting suitable solutions to the authorities within the country and exchanging experiences with international bodies and other countries;

(c) The realization of equal access of all children to free and compulsory education, particularly for deprived children;

(d) The enhancement of the educational level of deprived people, especially for university students;

(e) The raising of literacy levels and access to universal primary education, particularly with a view to eliminating gender inequality in education;

(f) Efforts to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger in deprived regions;

(g) Efforts to promote and improve maternal health;

(h) The reduction of the pregnancy rates for girls under 18 years of age;

(i) Efforts to improve the general health and hygiene of children in deprived regions.

The objectives were accomplished by:

(a) Holding education courses and presentation of special education services;

(b) Holding seminars and technical trainings;

(c) Maintaining an active presence at international events, and exchanging information and experiences with international and NGOs having similar objectives;

(d) Establishing links and cooperation with national, international and NGOs having similar objectives;

(e) Establishing links with domestic civil institutions for the purpose of conducting joint activities.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization was represented at the twelfth to fifteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council, in Geneva, and at the fifty-third to fifty-fifth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals included the following:

(a) The provision of education aid to children deprived of education irrespective of ethnic or religious differences;

(b) The construction of schools in deprived regions with the aim of combating illiteracy and promoting cultural development and job creation;

(c) The education of children and juveniles, in particular girls, in deprived regions;

(d) The education of women and girls in the correct use of contraceptives;

(e) The holding of family planning education courses;

(f) The dispatching of a medical team to schools in deprived regions to improve public health levels;

(g) The distribution of clothes in schools in deprived regions;

(h) The creation of job opportunities aimed at combating unemployment;

(i) Support for improving the conditions for Iraqi patients.

**Additional information**

The Institute is interested in becoming active not only within the framework of the Commission on Status of Women, but if the capacities of the Institute permit, it is also interested in the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Both commissions are functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and therefore, through contributions to them, the Institute may assist the United Nations. However, the Institute can be helpful in promoting human rights through monitoring the implementation of the human rights conventions such the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the country (the Islamic Republic of Iran is a State party) as much as it is related to education and free and compulsory education for all. The Institute would like to focus at least on three of the Millennium Development Goals, the goals related to poverty eradication, education for all children and promoting gender equality.

## 9. National Alliance of Women's Organizations

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

The National Alliance of Women's Organizations is an umbrella group representing and supporting women's organizations and individual members based in England.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Alliance works alongside sister organizations in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland as the United Kingdom Joint Committee on Women, the national body representing the concerns and needs of women in the United Kingdom at the European Women's Lobby.

**Any change that had a significant impact on the organization's vision**

The Alliance:

(a) Led the European (Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)) Regional Caucus in partnership with other regional caucuses at the Commission on the Status

of Women in important and successful lobbying of Governments against any weakening of language in the agreed conclusions;

(b) Worked with the Gender Equality Architecture Reform campaign to ensure the establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);

(c) Worked with other leading NGOs on the needs and concerns of older women, enabling the introduction in the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women of general recommendation No. 27 on older women and the protection of their rights;

(d) Began recently to accredit, under the auspices of the Alliance, young women and some young men to the Commission on the Status of Women.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Since 1999, the Alliance has attended and played an active role in NGO participation at the Commission on the Status of Women. As well as submitting written statements which become part of the official documentation of the session, the Alliance has lobbied particular delegates and has also taken the opportunity to meet with the European Union delegation and European NGOs while attending the sessions. In addition, the Alliance works together with other NGOs in larger geographical groupings, through its membership in the European Women's Lobby. During the reporting period, the Chair represented the United Kingdom on the Board of the European Women's Lobby and, as elected Vice-President, also led the Lobby's delegation to the United Nations for two sessions. In that capacity, she convened the European (ECE) Regional Caucus at the Commission.

*Commission on the Status of Women*

Fifty-first session, March 2007: a written statement was submitted and representatives from the Alliance attended the session. In partnership with other United Kingdom NGOs, the Alliance actively supported a side event, entitled "Why me? Media exploitation of girls as a form of violence against girls".

Fifty-second session, March 2008: a written statement was submitted on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women. Alliance representatives, in partnership with the Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, ran a ide event entitled "Peacebuilding: is it a women's job?"

Fifty-third session, March 2009: representatives from the Alliance attended and a written statement was submitted. The Alliance organized and ran its own side event on violence against women and girls to illustrate how women can leverage change and influence decision-making.

Fifty-fourth session, March 2010: the Alliance organized a side event entitled "Age shall not wither us". It worked for the adoption of the recommendation with other leading NGOs, and continues to bring it to the attention of the Government of the United Kingdom and to work with other NGOs globally to ensure that measures are taken in line with the recommendation.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Members of the Alliance Board attended the preparatory NGO forum in Geneva in December 2009, which was part of the European and ECE Regional Preparatory Committee for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women. The Alliance worked with other participating NGOs to ensure that the language on trafficking for sexual purposes and on mechanisms for reform of the United Nations was as progressive as possible.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: The Alliance consulted widely throughout the membership in preparation for its contribution to the Government response to the Committee and especially to the shadow reports.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Alliance considers that all the activities it undertakes towards the empowerment of women are in line with the Millennium Development Goals, especially since much of its work is educational in the broadest sense. If the United Nations body, including accredited NGOs, are actively involved in the arguments against women's continuing poverty, the experience of violence, the lack of basic freedoms, the prevention of the girl child from attending school, the lack of the right to freedom of movement and so forth, then globally its status and its actions are strengthened.

Locally, at United Kingdom Government level, the Alliance has argued extensively against the abolition of the Women's National Commission in January 2010. The Government Equalities Office has taken over the functions of what had been an advisory independent, albeit Government-funded, body. The Alliance has worked to have a new gender architecture established, which could go some way to enabling women whose national infrastructure was thus removed, to provide a collective voice to Government and to communicate effectively among themselves. Thus far, NGOs (overwhelmingly, women's organizations) remain without such support.

## 10. Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation

**Special, 2007**

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

(a) Devaki Jain, Trustee, Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation was invited in 2008 by the International Labour Organization (ILO) to prepare an alternative set of documents regarding the employment policy for women in India. ILO requested her input in identifying specific women's issues that have received little attention in the sphere of macropolicies and in presenting possible strategies to address them;

(b) *Harvesting Feminist Knowledge for Public Policy: Rebuilding Progress* — Edited by Devaki Jain, and Diane Elson, University of Essex, United Kingdom, supported by UNDP, published by SAGE in 2011;

(c) Gender budgeting: "Building budgets from below", initiated by the Foundation and funded by the United Nations Development Fund for Women

(UNIFEM) and the European Union from 2003 to 2008, enabled women elected to local self-government to prepare a suitable budget accommodating their needs. These reports are being used by UN-Women.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

(a) "Using the turbulence to the advantage of the less privileged", paper presented by Devaki Jain at the UNDP event during the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 4 March 2009;

(b) Panel sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Canada and Nicaragua to the United Nations, in collaboration with UNDP and IDRC, at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women on 3 March 2010. The topic of the panel was "Vision for a better world: from economic crisis to equality", from a paper co-authored by Devaki Jain;

(c) "Economic growth and women's work: an analysis", by Devaki Jain and Shubha Chacko, October 2008, prepared for UNDP Morocco.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

(a) Judge Navi Pillay (now High Commissioner for Human Rights) visited Bangalore in November 2007 and held discussions with Devaki Jain and Shubha Chacko on some of the ideas relating to the use of legal instruments, institutions and "macrojudicary" spaces to promote new ways of exploring the concept of justice — especially in the context of the current neoliberal agenda;

(b) Diane Elson, who came to Bangalore for a month in 2008 as a visiting faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, prepared a formal proposal along with Devaki Jain and Shubha Chacko for UNDP to support the Casablanca II colloquium.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

(a) "Community-based response to violence against women and other gender issues", a pilot innovative exercise supported by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems revealed that in addition to the Domestic Violence Act and Dowry Prohibition Act, there is a need for other mechanisms of redress to protect women's rights and promoting the equal rights of men and women;

(b) "Impact of State excise policy on arrack (hard liquor) sales and consumption", funded by the Department of Women and Child Development, of the Government of India, pointed out that ease of access to the liquor vend tends to enhance consumption. In households headed by illiterates, there is a nutritional impact on children owing to arrack consumption and in households headed by literates, the female children of non-arrack-consuming households have better nutritional status.

Some triumphant achievements include:

- The documentary film *Building Budgets from Below* was presented with other productions at the Commonwealth local Government Conference in Auckland (New Zealand) in March 2007.
- "Sthree Suchana Sangama", a state-level elected federation of women representatives, was set up in order to broaden the base relating to the collection and diffusion of information in a professional manner with a view to reaching the women at the grass roots.

**Additional information**

(a) The initiative on "Strengthening the capacity of locally elected councils especially women among them in economic governance — village development plan", funded by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, helped women to have both "rights" and "voice" as well as to have a stake in ensuring the democratically elected Panchayath Raj Institutions to function satisfactorily;

(b) The initiative on "Women's participation and decentralization", funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, pointed out the drastic changes among the elected women representatives, which later formed a part of a publication;

(c) The initiative on "Relating the gender budgeting exercise with the village development plan", supported by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, enabled the elected women representatives and self-help group members to perform their duties and tasks in an effective way and also to apply a user-friendly gender budgeting tool.

## 11. Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation was established in 1999 and registered in April 2003. It is headquartered in Abuja and has volunteer clubs in each of the six political zones of Nigeria. Because of logistical challenges, its office in Florida has ceased to operate.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The mission of the Federation is to mobilize awareness and actions against trafficking in persons, child labour and abuse and the spread of HIV/AIDS. This is accomplished through public awareness and sensitization programmes, advocacy visits to religious and traditional rulers, government policymakers, the printing and dissemination of information, education and communication materials, rallies in public places and by providing rehabilitation support services to trafficked persons and vulnerable children.

**Any change that had a significant impact on the organization's vision**

The Federation extended the scope of its activities by establishing anti-trafficking brigades in a number of primary and junior secondary schools, which target children between the ages of 6 and 15 years with messages that will prevent them from being trafficked, abused and exploited, teach them about their rights and responsibilities and encourage school authorities to provide a conducive environment for the children to freely express themselves on issues that directly affect children.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Federation received funding support from the United States Agency for International Aid to mitigate the impact and spread of HIV/AIDS among female sex workers in brothels. Ten per cent of the female sex workers were empowered through vocational skills training and grant equipment to encourage them to opt out of sex work. The Federation simplified the language of the Nigerian Trafficked In Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act 2003 and translated it into the three main indigenous Nigerian languages, Igbo, Hausa and Yoruba as well as Pidgin English.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

(a) The Federation participated in the meeting of Expert Group Initiative on Stakeholders Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies on Counter-Trafficking Cooperation, held in Vienna in January 2009, coordinated by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes;

(b) The Federation was a member of the Nigerian delegation to Geneva in May 2010 to defend the third and fourth periodic report of Nigeria on the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, supported by UNICEF;

(c) In May 2009, the Federation was a member of the national working group to develop a national policy and legislation on the smuggling of migrants in Nigeria;

(d) The Federation attended the European Union Ministerial Conference on the theme "Towards Global EU Action against Trafficking in Human Beings", held in Brussels from 19 to 21 October 2009;

(e) The organization was represented at the meeting on a multilateral cooperation agreement to combat child trafficking in West Africa, held in Niamey from 29 to 31 July 2008.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

(a) In February 2010, the Federation cooperated with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to field test an interactive computer-based tool for victim service providers;

(b) In January 2009, the Federation was supported by the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery to offer rehabilitation services to 13 victims of trafficking;

(c) UNICEF supported the Federation as the national coordinating secretariat to organize a capacity-building workshop for 50 members of the Network of Civil Society Organizations against Trafficking, Child Abuse and Labour, on the development of referral strategies for trafficked persons, from 26 to 29 September 2007;

(d) Between 14 and 18 September 2008, UNICEF supported the Federation to organize a workshop for 35 leaders of the above-mentioned Network, on the prevention, rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of trafficked and vulnerable children;

(e) In 2008, the Federation contributed to the development of a handbook entitled "Access to justice for trafficked persons in Nigeria". The project was coordinated by UNIFEM;

(f) The Federation participated in the two-day National Consultative Meeting of stakeholders organized by UNICEF on the Nigeria/UNICEF 2009-2012 Country Programme of Action Plans for Protection and Participation Programme.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

(a) The Federation supported 60 indigent children to complete their primary and secondary education;

(b) Some 40 indigent girls were supported by the Federation to remain and complete their basic education;

(c) The Federation reached a total of 516 female sex workers and 2,330 out-of-school-youths with comprehensive information and knowledge of HIV/AIDS and on how to prevent themselves from becoming infected.

## 12. Women's Action Group

**Special, 1999**

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

**Reduction of gender based violence**. Women's Action Group has done awareness-raising on gender based violence, in particular domestic violence. It was part of the coalition that lobbied for the enactment of the Domestic Violence Act in 2007. The Executive Director sits on the Anti-Domestic Violence Council, a body set up by the Domestic Violence Act, and is mandated to ensure enforcement of the Act. The Group worked closely with UNICEF to reduce the vulnerability of women and girls who were displaced by political violence during the 2008 elections. It provided shelter, food and non-food items to the women and children who were displaced. Psychosocial support for those who were displaced by the political violence was also given. The Group worked closely with traditional leaders as a strategy for addressing violence against women perpetuated by cultural practices such as polygamy and forced wife inheritance.

**Access to health services**. The Group implemented awareness activities on sexual and reproductive health rights. In its work, the organization uses international conventions such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

Discrimination against Women and the Beijing Platform for Action, among others. The Abuja Declaration and the Maputo Plan of Action are some of the regional instruments that the Group refers to in its work. Community mobilization and awareness activities are focused mainly on issues of safe motherhood and access to other preventive services such as breast cancer screening. Since 1994, the maternal mortality rate in Zimbabwe has increased from 283 to 725 deaths per 100,000 live births. The Group's work has therefore been on raising the awareness of women on the importance of seeking medical services for all their pregnancies and of delivering in health centres. This work also contributed to the attainment of the United Nations Millennium Goals.

**Advocacy**. The Group undertook advocacy activities that were focused on access to health services. The activities were targeted at members of parliament and health service providers. The organization was part of the "Shout out campaign" that was supported by the United Nations to reduce maternal mortality. The campaign focused mainly on awareness-raising and advocacy. The Group undertook Advocacy activities relating to the commitments in the Abuja Declaration, namely, that 15 per cent of the national budget should be allocated to health. It also advocated for access to safe abortion services for women who need the service. The response to the latter was the setting up of the post-abortion care programme where women can access post-abortion services.

**HIV and AIDS**. The Group implemented HIV prevention programmes during the reporting period. Strategies under the prevention programmes included dialogues that were targeted at behavioural change. The Group implemented programmes that integrated the gender relationships among men and women. It also partnered with other organizations to advocate for access to antiretroviral drugs. The female condom was also promoted as a female-controlled device for the prevention of HIV infection.

**Cholera**. The Group responded to the cholera outbreak in 2008.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Executive Director and other members attended the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women from 2007 to 2010.

The Executive Director attended a meeting organized by WHO and UNAIDS in South Africa, entitled "Next steps 1% Tenofovir Gel".

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Women's Action Group has continued to cooperate with United Nations bodies at the country level. It has received funding from UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund to address gender-based violence. It has also participated in the development of country plans by the United Nations and has been an implementing partner in some of the plans.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization's focus is mainly on Goals 3, 4, 5 and 6, through awareness-raising on safe motherhood in rural communities; advocacy for accessible and affordable reproductive health rights; and participation in the 50/50 campaign for women in

decision-making positions; participation in the National Strategic Plan for HIV; participation at the World AIDS Day commemoration at the national level; and participation in the World AIDS Conference, held in Austria in 2010, and the International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa.

## 13. World Futures Studies Federation

**Special, 1987**

**Introduction**

The World Futures Studies Federation is a global NGO that was founded in 1973 to encourage and promote the development of futures studies as a transdisciplinary academic and professional field in all parts of the world. It operates as a global network of practicing futurists — researchers, teachers, scholars, policy analysts, activists and others from approximately 60 countries.

The Federation provides a forum where the stimulation, exchange, and examination of ideas, visions and plans for alternative, long-term thinking can take place, both face-to-face and virtually.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Federation acts as a forum where stimulation, exchange and examination of ideas, visions and plans for alternative, long-term futures can take place; undertakes further studies of the future as a field of intellectual and political activity concerning all sectors of psychological, social, economic, political and cultural life; encourages innovative interdisciplinary analysis and critical thinking among all peoples; promotes a higher level of futures consciousness in general; encourages the democratization of future-oriented thinking and acting; stimulates awareness of the urgent need for futures studies in Governments and international organizations and other decision-making and educational groups and institutions so as to resolve problems at the local, national, regional and global levels.

**Any change that had a significant impact on the organization's vision**

In 2008, the Federation appointed a Director to administer and manage the membership and secretariat. This position has effectively replaced the elected position of Secretary-General with the aim of increasing organizational stability and increasing the retention of institutional memory.

In 2009, a new President, Jennifer Gidley, and an Executive Board were elected. The President's vision was to rebuild the global community and in particular to increase the membership of young people and women and the number of members from developing countries. Her vision was also to recommence courses in futures studies, which was historically a key role of the Federation, and also to strengthen its research capacity through greater collaboration with other research institutes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Federation is a global NGO also in official relations with UNESCO and is an associate member of the International Social Science Council.

In a more general sense, the Federation contributes to the work of the United Nations through the diversity of its membership, the pluralism of its values and its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The President of the Federation has made several visits to UNESCO headquarters in Paris from her home in Melbourne, since she was elected in 2009. Members of the Executive Board and the general membership have attended several UNESCO foresight and anticipation meetings between 2007 and 2010.

However, scarce funds and few staff (all volunteers) make attendance at international meetings very difficult.

The Executive Board and general members are interested in becoming more involved in attending meetings of the United Nations and its bodies in the future and would like to be kept informed about what is happening.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Federation has cooperative relationships with UNESCO, the International Association of Universities and the other United Nations bodies mentioned above.

The current President of the Federation is also connected with the United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme as a researcher at RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia, where the global secretariat of the Cities Programme is located.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Federation has recently resumed its introductory courses in futures studies offered to women and young people as a form of capacity-building.

In particular, the organization as a whole and many of its members are strongly committed to educational futures, gender equality and sustainable development.

**Additional information**

Further information about the Federation can be found on the website that also provides links to many resources and to many other organizations with an interest in futures studies and foresight.